

Assistive technology such as wheelchairs, artificial limbs, walking aids, and toilet chairs are essential health products and need to be available alongside medicines and other medical supplies to ensure comprehensive health care for people injured and/or displaced as a result of conflict or disaster.

Both conflicts and natural hazards result in large numbers of people with injuries, who will need assistive products for their mobility and self-care needs as a first priority. People who use assistive technology and are fleeing from conflict or disaster are likely to have left their assisting products behind and will need replacement devices for their health and to enable evacuation and onward travel. A [WHO factsheet](#) has more information on assistive technology.

To support people with assistive technology needs during emergencies, WHO has prepared two model lists of priority assistive products that should be adapted to best meet the needs of the local population, the context, and available service providers:

- **AT6:** Six mobility and self-care products for deployment with WHO Trauma Emergency Surgical kits to health facilities.
- **AT10:** Ten mobility and self-care products to support internally displaced people and refugees. Quantities are estimated based on a population of 10,000 displaced people or refugees.

AT6: Priority assistive products for emergency trauma response		Quantity per 50 people requiring surgical care
1	Crutches, elbow	50
2	Crutches, axilla	5
3	Walking stick	25
4	Walking frame	4
5	Wheelchair, temporary use with comfort cushion	8
6	Toilet and shower chair (wheeled, washable pan, foot plates)	2

AT10: Priority assistive products for internally displaced people and refugees		Quantity per population of 10,000
1	Crutches, elbow	100
2	Crutches, axilla	
3	Walking stick	625
4	Walking frame	80
5	Pressure relief cushions	35
6	Wheelchair, manual assistant controlled	60
7	Wheelchair, manual for active use	35
8	Catheter kits (3 month supply per kit, including products needed for continence management using intermittent, indwelling or external catheters)	35
9	Toilet and shower chairs, static	70
10	Absorbent continence products, single use (3 month supply)	100

Communication assistive technology has also been identified as being commonly required during emergencies. Local translation and printing of communication boards using alphabet and symbols is recommended.

AT6 and AT10 products need to be provided within a service delivery framework adapted to the context of the emergency.

This is to ensure people receive the most appropriate product, can use it safely and effectively, and where possible, referrals are made for further care and future follow up.

WHO has also prepared printed and online information and training materials to support teams providing assistive technology during emergencies:

#	Locally printed assistive technology and training support / service delivery resources
A	Communication boards (alphabet and symbols) to support people to talk about their needs
B	A handbook for rapid selection, fitting and teaching how to use six essential assistive products
C	User information leaflets for walking aids and wheelchairs
D	Training in Assistive Products (TAP) online training for service providers